

# Summer 2023

## Things to look for this season:

**Crayfish Chimneys:** These short mud towers house a single burrowing crayfish, which looks like a small lobster. Look along the greenway and in open fields in early June for these crayfish chimneys.



**Reptiles:** Sunshine brings ectothermic animals like snakes and turtles out to bask on a warm rock or on the greenway. Look for aquatic turtles sharing logs in Hidden Pond and Old Farm Pond all summer.

**Wildflowers:** In June you can see common Milkweed (pink) blooming by the Nature Center. Our iconic tickseed sunflower (yellow) typically blooms by the Observation Deck in late July/early August, which also brings tall ironweed (purple).



shelby bottoms  
nature center

1900 Davidson Street  
Nashville, TN 37206  
(615) 862-8539

shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov  
sbnc.nashville.gov

### Shelby Bottoms Nature Center

Tues/Thurs/Sat: 9 am - 4 pm  
Wed/Fri: 12 - 4 pm

**Shelby Bottoms Park and Greenway**  
Dawn to dusk, 365 days a year!

## On Repeat

Contact the Nature Center for ADA accommodations



### Afternoon Tea



**1st Friday** of the month  
2 - 3 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Come close out the week and enjoy the summer weather with a selection of iced teas from High Garden Tea, featuring the Shelby Bottoms Blend!  
Leaders: SBNC Staff



### Early Bird Coffee Social

**1st Saturday** of the month  
9 am - 12 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Enjoy Shelby Bottoms with a hot cup of our Shelby Bottoms Brew Bird Friendly®-certified coffee. Stay and learn about the connection between bird habitat, coffee, and native wildflowers, or take a cup to go into the park.



### Summer Morning Bird Hike

**2nd Tuesday** of the month  
8 - 9:30 am  
Ages 15+  
Registration Required

Join us on a guided bird hike around the one-mile, paved Nature Center loop. All levels of experience welcome.

Leader: Lena Friedman



### Nature Story & Song

**1st/3rd Wed.** of the month  
10 am  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

We'll read nature-themed books with some help from our puppet friends. We'll also learn a song or two to get the wiggles out!

Leader: Amanda Healan & SBNC Staff/Volunteers

To register, email us at [shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539

# June

## Full Moon Hike



Saturday, June 3  
8 - 9 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Join us for a hike around the park to explore by moonlight, and we'll hope for a nice clear sky so we can marvel at the moon as well (no flashlights, please!).

Leader: Christie Wiser

## SBNC Movie Night



Friday, June 9  
7 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Celebrate these beautiful summer nights and evenings by relaxing with us outside for movie night! This week's showing is *Hoot*, based on Carl Hiaasen's book. A group of kids try and save some owls – and we'll watch their journey on the projector outside. Bring your own blankets! Snacks will be provided  
Leaders: SBNC Staff

## Jr. Naturalist: Beginning Birds

Saturday, June 10  
9:30 - 11:30 am  
Ages 6+  
Registration Required

Who's singing in the bushes? What was that bright flash of color? We'll learn how to use binoculars, learn some basic IDs, and go for a short bird hike together.

Leader: Lena Friedman

## Native Wildflower Talk

Saturday, June 10  
1 - 2 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Tennessee has an incredibly diverse range of native plants and flowers. Come learn all about them from our friends at the Tennessee Native Plant Society. What's great for pollinators? What grows wild and free in Tennessee? What's good for gardening? Find out – and there will be a follow up hike next week!  
Leader: Karen Hill ([Tennessee Native Plant Society](#))

## Grasslands Talk



Friday, June 16  
10 - 11 am  
Ages 7+  
Registration Required

Join us for a talk on the porch about the history and ecology of grasslands here in Tennessee! Our grassland ecosystems are incredibly diverse and are home to many interesting species. Come learn all about this habit and its history!  
Leader: Jeremy French ([Southeastern Grasslands Institute](#))

## Tai Chi/Qi Gong Experience

Saturday, June 17  
10 - 11 am  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Come enjoy the morning with some peaceful guided Tai Chi/Qi Gong practice at the Nature Center. No experience necessary.

Leader: Volunteer Cindy Hui-Lio, Ed.D

## Native Wildflower Hike

Saturday, June 17  
10 - 11:30 am  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Last week, we learned about the native flowers of Tennessee! Now, we'll go out for a leisurely hike in the park and bottomland to see what we can find. Come enjoy the morning and the natural beauty around us. Lecture attendance not required.  
Leaders: Sue Bible & Aprele Griffin ([Tennessee Native Plant Society](#))

## TN Smart Yard Community Sign Reveal

Saturday, June 17  
12 - 1 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Drop in to see our new Tennessee Smart Yard signs along our campus. Tour the areas of the signs while you learn more about this program and ways that you can get your yard ready to be a certified [Tennessee Smart Yard](#)!  
Leaders: Julie Berbiglia ([Metro Water Services](#)), Christie Wiser

## Community Science Spotlight: Firefly Watch

Saturday, June 17  
8 - 9 pm  
Registration Required  
Ages 8+

What fireflies are flashing in your yard? Join us on a night hike to observe the park fireflies, identify the species, and maybe even try talking to them...

Leader: Lena Friedman



**The Nature Center will be CLOSED on Tuesday, June 20 for the Juneteenth holiday**







## Make Music Nashville: Flower Pot Music



Wednesday, June 21  
1 - 2:30 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Flowerpot Music, written by celebrated composer Elliot Cole and directed by percussionist Peter Ferry, is a composition for an unlikely but beautiful percussion instrument – the flowerpot! Come learn and then perform the piece, specially composed for Make Music Day. Sign up to receive specifics ahead of time... but you can also just show up at 1 pm with your flowerpot in hand!  
Leader: Christine Comer ([Make Music Nashville](#))


To register, email us at [shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539

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|---|---|--|
| <b>Pollinator Power<br/>Sunset Hike</b><br>      | Friday, June 23<br>7:30 - 8:30 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required    | Join us for a simple hike around the one-mile loop in search of some of our favorite summer pollinators. Celebrate National Pollinators Month with us!<br><br>Leader: Christie Wiser   |
| <b>Early Nashville<br/>History with<br/>Aaron Deter-Wolf</b>  | Saturday, June 24<br>11 am - 12 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required   | Nashville has such an interesting and wild history! Join us on the back porch for a fun talk with prehistoric archaeologist and author Aaron Deter-Wolf to learn all about the deep history of Nashville before it was Nashville. Check out his <a href="#">new book</a> , and enjoy a glass of lemonade and iced tea while we chat and learn.<br>Leader: <a href="#">Aaron Deter-Wolf (Tennessee Division of Archaeology)</a> |
| <b>Summer Star Party<br/>at Cornelia Fort<br/>Trailhead in Shelby<br/>Bottoms</b>   | Saturday, June 24<br>8:30 - 10 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required | Members of the <a href="#">Barnard-Seyfert Astronomical Society</a> set up telescopes and everyone is invited to enjoy the night sky. Family/kid friendly. You don't need to be a member or own a telescope, just come out and enjoy the night sky.<br><br>Leaders: Astronomers of BSAS & SBNC Staff                                        |
| <b>Blackberry Sunset<br/>Pick &amp; Stroll</b>  | Tuesday, June 27<br>7:30 - 8:30 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required   | Join us for a stroll to harvest a modest amount of wild blackberries. We'll learn ways to pick responsibly and safely, and even sample some blackberry lemonade!<br><br>Leader: Christie Wiser   |
| <b>Summer<br/>Sunrise Hike</b><br>               | Wednesday, June 28<br>6 - 7 am<br>Ages 13+<br>Registration Required       | Calling all early-birds! Hike with a naturalist around the one-mile loop to observe nature as it wakes up.<br><br>Leader: Christie Wiser   |
| <b>July</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Summer Moonlight<br/>Mosey</b>   | Saturday, July 1<br>9 - 10 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required        | Join us for a hike around the park to explore by moonlight, and we'll hope for a nice clear sky so we can marvel at the moon as well (no flashlights, please!).<br><br>Leader: Christie Wiser  |
| <b>The Nature Center will be CLOSED on Tuesday, July 4th for Independence Day</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Shelby Bottoms<br/>Close Encounters</b><br> | Friday, July 7<br>8 - 9 pm<br>Ages 10+<br>Registration Required           | July 2nd was World UFO Day... what's in the sky over Shelby Bottoms? Join us for a special night hike at Cornelia Fort Airpark Trailhead in Shelby Bottoms as we talk about local UFO sightings and what's flying around in the dark.<br><br>Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller  |
| <b>Jr. Naturalist:<br/>The Buzz About<br/>Pollinators</b>   | Saturday, July 8<br>10 - 11:30 am<br>Ages 6+<br>Registration Required     | All sorts of pollinators are buzzing, fluttering, and zipping around the park visiting the flowers. What are pollinators, what do they do, and how can we help them? Come explore and find out!<br><br>Leader: Lena Friedman   |
| <b>Summer Porch Jam</b><br>                    | Saturday, July 8<br>1 - 3 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required      | Everyone is welcome at our Nature Center jams! Weather permitting, we'll be pickin' out on the back porch (otherwise in the classroom). Bring your voice, instruments, and/or a song to share. All levels welcome.<br><br>Leader: Amanda Healan  |
| <b>Afternoon Cloud<br/>Watching</b><br>        | Wednesday, July 12<br>2 - 3 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required       | Let's enjoy a beautiful summer afternoon as we learn the fine details of cloud watching and why we should do it. Let's record some data, name the shapes in the sky (is it a dragon or a cumulus cloud? Definitely both!), take a stroll, and maybe do a craft afterwards if we have some time.<br><br>Leader: Hazel Miller  |

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| <b>SBNC Movie Night</b><br>           | Friday, July 14<br>7 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required               | Celebrate beautiful summer evenings by relaxing outside for movie night! This week's showing is <i>Wall-E</i> , about a lonely robot searching for his purpose and for life on Earth, as we learn about the dangers of not caring for our planet. Bring your own blankets! Snacks will be provided.<br>Leaders: SBNC Staff  |
| <b>Tai Chi/Qi Gong Experience</b>  | Saturday, July 15<br>10 - 11 am<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required       | Come enjoy the morning with some peaceful guided Tai Chi/Qi Gong practice at the Nature Center. No experience necessary.<br>Leader: Volunteer Cindy Hui-Lio, Ed.D   |
| <b>World Snake Day</b><br>            | Saturday, July 15<br>1 - 3 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required      | This special and often misunderstood reptile is essential to a healthy ecosystem. We also have one who lives in the Nature Center! Come by on World Snake Day to learn all about them. Open-house style, stop by any time!<br>Leader: SBNC Staff  |
| <b>Summer Syrups</b><br>              | Saturday, July 15<br>5:30 - 6:30 pm<br>Ages 13+<br>Registration Required   | What's better than a cool drink in summer? Sustainably forage some blackberries and collect herbs from our garden, then learn to make an easy flavored simple syrup. We'll sample our creation in lemonade, iced tea, and a simple mocktail.<br>Leader: Lena Friedman   |
| <b>Naturalist Walk</b>   | Tuesday, July 18<br>9 - 10 am<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required         | Take a walk with a Tennessee naturalist to look at all the things that make Shelby Bottoms alive and diverse.<br>Leader: Volunteer Naturalist Cayty Marland   |
| <b>Ecology Board Game Night</b><br> | Friday, July 21<br>6 - 9 pm<br>Ages 13+<br>Registration Required           | Board game enthusiasts and nature lovers alike are welcome at our ecology-themed game night! Come play one we own, or bring an ecology game you'd like to share. Snacks and drinks provided.<br>Leaders: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller   |
| <b>July Jelly Jam-berry</b><br>     | Saturday, July 22<br>10 am - 12:30 pm<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required | Blackberries grow wild in the park, and we're hoping for a bountiful harvest! Join us and the Nature Explorers to learn all about ethical harvesting and foraging. We'll pick and walk, and learn about making jellies, jams, and teas. Bring your own blackberry recipe to share in our own Jelly Jam-berry mini cookbook!<br>Leaders: Leslie and Judy (Nature Explorers) & Hazel Miller |
| <b>Hummingbird Hootenanny!</b>   | Saturday, July 29<br>11 am - 1 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required  | Zip in to the Nature Center for an open-house exploration of one of our favorite summer visitors.<br>Leaders: Christie Wiser & SBNC Staff   |

## August

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|--|---|---|
| <b>Nature at Night Hike</b><br> | Tuesday, August 1<br>8 - 9 pm<br>All ages<br>Registration Required    | Tennessee summer is in full effect and ideal for nature at night. We will take a hike around the park to explore by moon light (no flashlights, please!).<br>Leader: Christie Wiser   |
| <b>Morning Mill Creek Meander</b>  | Friday, August 4<br>9 - 10:30 am<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required | Come explore and appreciate one of Nashville's more underutilized greenways with us! We'll meet at Mill Creek Park and Greenway on Sunnywood Drive in Antioch, and enjoy the morning sun in the creek-side meadows.<br>Leader: Hazel Miller |

To register, email us at [shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539



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| <b>'Mater Madness</b><br>  | Saturday, August 5<br>1-3 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required        | It's "tomato time" here in East Nashville! Get your tomato party on early before the annual Tomato Arts Festival. Drop by the Nature Center for our tomato scavenger hunt, garden bingo and more! Open House style.<br>Leader: Christie Wiser                                      |
| <b>Cornelia Fort Walking Tour</b>   | Friday, August 11<br>9 - 10 am<br>All Ages<br>Registration Required         | The former Cornelia Fort Airpark, now a trailhead in Shelby Bottoms, was named after a woman pilot who flew during World War II. Come learn all about this Nashville icon's wild and amazing life as we walk and talk.<br>Leaders: Hazel Miller & Christie Wiser                   |
| <b>Community Science Spotlight: Project Squirrel</b>  | Saturday, August 12<br>1 - 2:30 pm<br>Ages 8+<br>Registration Required      | Scientists want your help to learn about squirrels populations accross the country! We'll learn how to identify two common types of squirrel and why community observations are important, then go for a short squirrel hike together.<br>Leader: Lena Friedman                    |
| <b>Ecology Board Game Night</b><br>   | Friday, August 18<br>6 - 9 pm<br>Ages 13+<br>Registration Required          | Board game enthusiasts and nature lovers alike are welcome at our ecology-themed game night! Come play one we own, or bring an ecology game you'd like to share. Snacks and drinks provided.<br>Leaders: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller  |
| <b>Jr. Naturalist: Orienteering</b>   | Saturday, August 19<br>10 - 11:30 am<br>Ages 6+<br>Registration Required    | A compass is an important tool for an outdoor scientist or explorer to navigate and create maps. Learn how to read one and then use it on a treasure hunt around the Nature Center! We'll also create compass maps of our own.<br>Leader: Lena Friedman                            |
| <b>Sunflower Saturday</b><br>   | Saturday, August 19<br>11 am - 1 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required | Sunflower season is among us and we are feeling the power of the flower! Learn more about the importance of this mighty plant.<br>Leader: Christie Wiser & SBNC Staff  |
| <b>Sip &amp; See Hummingbird Happy Hour</b>   | Friday, August 25<br>6 - 7 pm<br>All ages<br>Registration Required          | Freshly filled hummingbird feeders, beautiful porches, lemonade to sip on... what more could you ask for?<br>Leader: Christie Wiser  |
| <b>Migrating Murals by Andee Rudloff, an "OVERALL" exhibit closing</b><br> | Saturday, August 26<br>6 - 9 pm<br>All Ages<br>No Registration Required     | Saying farewell to things we love is never easy. Join us as we close up this "OVERALL" marvelous art exhibit by our good friend and overall-wearing local artist, <u>Andee Rudloff</u> .<br>Host: Christie Wiser<br><div data-bbox="386 1371 1495 1612" data-label="Image"> </div> |

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## CORNELIA FORT PICKING PARTY

@ Cornelia Fort  
Airpark Trailhead in  
Shelby Bottoms

**JUNE 10**  
BOO RAY  
KRISTINA MURRAY  
PAIGE ROSE

**JULY 22**  
THE FBR  
COLE RITTER AND THE  
NIGHT OWLS  
GLORIA ANDERSON

**AUGUST 26**  
BRAZILBILLY  
BILL AND THE BELLES  
SOUTHERN CALL

